Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention

Annual Report

July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015
ALBERTI CENTER TEAM

Dr. Jean M. Alberti, Benefactor
Dr. Amanda B. Nickerson, Director
Brie Kishel, Program and Operations Manager
Dr. Kathleen Allen, Training and Evaluation Specialist
Jilynn Werth, Graduate Assistant
Erin Cook, Graduate Assistant
Toni Torchia, Student Programming Specialist
Michele Crandall, Research Assistant
Joseph Prior, Research Assistant
Tiara Handy, Research Assistant
Samantha VanHout, Research Assistant
Dr. Danielle Guttman, Research Associate (Adjunct)

ALBERTI CENTER MISSION

The mission of the Alberti Center is to reduce bullying abuse in schools and in the community by contributing knowledge and providing evidence-based tools to effectively change the language, attitudes, and behaviors of educators, parents, students, and society. The center will be a national resource on the prevention of bullying and other antisocial behaviors among school children, as well as provide research and information that address these behaviors.

HISTORY OF THE CENTER

A generous gift from Graduate School of Education alumna Jean M. Alberti (Ph.D. ’70, Educational Psychology) established the Dr. Jean M. Alberti Center for the Prevention of Bullying Abuse and School Violence (Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention) at the University at Buffalo. The center was introduced to the public on April 27, 2010, through its symposium, "Prevention of Bullying Abuse and School Violence," and was officially launched in July of 2011, when Amanda Nickerson, Ph.D., became the inaugural director.
STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND IMPACT

It has been another productive and exciting year as we work to fulfill our important mission. This annual report highlights our activities as they relate to the mission and vision of the center, the Graduate School of Education (GSE), and the University at Buffalo, the State University of New York. We showcase our partners, including faculty affiliates, advisory council members, research collaborators, funders, sponsors, award winners, and community members throughout this report. These collaborative partnerships are the cornerstone of our work.

In relation to our mission of contributing knowledge, the Alberti Center affiliated faculty have published their work in peer refereed journal in various fields and presented at numerous professional conferences. Faculty members have been very active in pursuing and securing external funding for research and evaluation projects and have received honors and appointments in recognition of their scholarship. Finally, the Alberti Center has supported the contributions of exceptional early career scholars in the field of bullying abuse prevention through its annual award.

Our engagement, through interprofessional collaboration and providing evidence-based tools to our schools and communities for a better quality of life, continues to be a critical part of the mission of the Alberti Center, the GSE, and UB. In this report, we recognize our advisory council, consisting of internationally renowned scholars, and pillars of the Western New York community representing the fields of law, education, psychiatry, and human services. We also note the multiple presentations we have conducted in schools and communities. Our various sponsored events, including our annual conference, colloquium series, BAND Against Bullying performing arts competition for area high schools, and many others, are highlighted in this report.

The Alberti Center actively supports the GSE’s pedagogy of inquiry, engagement, and impact. Our contributions in this area have benefitted both UB students as well as practitioners through the Center for Continuing and Professional Education and as New York Stated Education Department approved provider of the Dignity for All Students Act training. It is an honor to be able to collaborate with such talented and generous partners in working to reduce bullying abuse in our schools and communities.
CONTRIBUTING KNOWLEDGE

Peer Refereed Journal Articles

**Allen, K. P.** (2015). “We don’t have bullying, but we have drama”: Understandings of bullying and related constructs within the social milieu of a U.S. high school. *Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment, 25*, 159-181.


Book Chapters


Articles for Practitioners (Peer Refereed)


Technical Report


Professional Presentations


Invited Professional Presentations:


Cook, E. PREPaRE Workshop 2: Crisis Intervention and Recovery: The Roles of School-Based Mental Health Professionals. Workshop presented at the Hudson Falls Central School District, Hudson Falls, NY.

Nickerson, A.B. (2015, May) Play (and live) with character: Preventing violence through leadership at the Team Captain Leadership Seminar, ECC South Campus.

**Funded Research**


**Grant Proposals Submitted**


Honors and Appointments

*Journal for Specialists in Group Work* (2010-2013)

Kishel, B. | Community Advisory Committee, Center for Disabilities Studies at UB
Executive Board, Disability Education and Advocacy Network (DEAN) of WNY

Nickerson, A. B. | Fellow, American Psychological Association (Division 16)
Member, Technical Review Panel, National Center for Education Statistics School Survey on Crime and Safety (8/14-10/14)
Advisory Member, Long Island School Practitioner Action Network (1/15-present)
Advisory Committee Member, BAND Against Bullying (11/12-present)

Reynolds, A. | Fellow, American Psychological Association Div. 17 (Society of Counseling Psychology)

Treadway, D. C. | Founding Fellow, U.S. Academy on Workplace Bullying, Mobbing, and Abuse

Alberti Center Early Career Award (2014)

**RECIPIENT – Jennifer Greif Green, Ph.D.,** Assistant Professor | Elementary, Early Childhood, & Special Education| Boston University

**EXPERTISE/INTERESTS:** Jennifer Greif Green is an Assistant Professor in Special Education and a child clinical psychologist. Her research focuses on understanding the role of schools in providing services to students with emotional and behavioral disorders. She is particularly interested in how teachers can contribute to facilitating early identification of students who may benefit from mental health services, as one way to reduce disparities in mental health service access. Dr. Green also studies school bullying. She specializes in assessing bullying and determining how assessments can be used to inform school safety planning. Jennifer has collaborated with a number of local schools to provide feedback on student bullying experiences.

**RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS**


**ENGAGING: INTERPROFESSIONAL COLLABORATIONS AND EVENTS**

**Advisory Council**

**Helen R. Aronoff, M.D.**, Associate Professor of Psychiatry | UB School of Medicine & Biomedical Sciences

**Lana D. Benatovich**, President | National Federation for Just Communities of WNY

**Vito Borrello**, Executive Director | National Association for Family, School, and Community Engagement (NAFSCE)

**Anna R. Cieri, Ph.D.**, Assist. Superintendent for Exceptional Education and Student Services | Williamsville Central School District

**Dewey G. Cornell, Ph.D.**, Professor of Education and Endowed Chair | University of Virginia

**Janice L. DeLucia-Waack, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor in Counseling, School, and Educational Psychology | University at Buffalo

**Dorothy L. Espelage, Ph.D.**, Professor, Education Psychology | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

**Bruce Goldstein**, Senior Partner | Goldstein, Ackerhalt & Pletcher, LLP

**Mary H. Gresham, Ph.D.**, Vice Provost for Educational Collaboration and Engagement | UB

**Jane Ogilvie**, Division Director of Community Youth Development | Erie 1 BOCES

**Jamie M. Ostrov, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Psychology | University at Buffalo

**Debra Pepler, Ph.D.**, Distinguished Research Professor | York University
Amy L. Reynolds, Ph.D., Associate Professor in Counseling, School, and Educational Psychology | UB

Reed Stewart, LCSW-R, Program Director, Beacon Health Strategies

Susan M. Swearer, Ph.D., Professor of School Psychology | University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Kevin Penberthy, LCSW, Deputy Director, Regional Office | New York State OPWDD

Faculty Affiliates

Ariel Aloe, Ph.D., Research Scientist in Graduate School of Education | University at Buffalo & Assistant Professor, Educational Psychology and Foundations | University of Northern Iowa

Laura Anderson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor in School of Nursing | University at Buffalo

Catherine P. Cook-Cottone, PhD., Associate Professor in Counseling, School, and Educational Psychology | University at Buffalo

Janice L. DeLucia-Waack, Ph.D., Associate Professor in Counseling, School, and Educational Psychology & Program Director of School Counseling | University at Buffalo

Jennifer Livingston, Ph.D., Research Scientist, Research Institute on Addictions | University at Buffalo

Jamie M. Ostrov, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Psychology | University at Buffalo

Amy L. Reynolds, Ph.D., Associate Professor in Counseling, School, and Educational Psychology | University at Buffalo

Darren Treadway, Ph.D., Associate Professor in Organization and HR | University at Buffalo

Presentations in the Community

Upward Bound Speaker Series (July 2014)

Nichols School (August 2014)

Nichols School (September 2014)

Amherst School District (October 2014)

Lovejoy Discovery School (October 2014)

North Collins School District (November 2014)

Mount Mercy (January 2015)

Holland Central Schools (February 2015)

National Federation for Just Communities (NFJC) 1st Annual IEEE Youth Leadership Conference (May 2015)
Team Captain Leadership Seminar at ECC South Campus (May 2015)
DASA Training for NYC Charter Schools (May 2015)
NFJC Youth Leadership Conference at Medaille College (May 2015)
Networking in Higher Ed Conference (June 2015)

2014-2015 Colloquium Series

September, 2014 – David V. Whalen, Founder & Project Director
Disability Awareness Training| Niagara University

How Lack of Education on Disabilities Promotes Bullying: What You Need to Know to Prevent It
21 Attendees

November, 2014 – Matthew Grizzard, Ph.D., Assistant Professor | Department of Communication | University at Buffalo

The Moral Sandbox of Media Entertainment
25 Attendees

February, 2014 – V. Paul Poteat, Ph.D., Associate Professor | Counseling and Developmental Psychology| Boston College

Advancing Research on Bias-based Bullying and Intervention Approaches
41 Attendees

April, 2014 – Gregory A. Fabiano, Ph.D., Associate Professor | Counseling, School, and Educational Psychology | University at Buffalo

Effective Approaches for Promoting Prosocial Behavior
34 Attendees
Alberti Center Annual Conference - October 2, 2014

Keynote Presentation:

It Isn’t IS Brain Science: Media Violence as a Risk Factor Aggression
Douglas Gentile, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Developmental Psychology | Iowa State University

Breakout Sessions

Aggression and Bullying Subtypes among Young Children: Risk Factors, Assessment, and Treatment
Jamie Ostrov, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Psychology | University at Buffalo

Creating Safe Spaces for LGBTQ Youth * Sponsored by embraceWNY
Amy L. Reynolds, Ph.D.
Associate Professor | Department of Counseling, School, and Educational Psychology | University at Buffalo
Anne Nowak, MS, LMHC
Director | Family Support Center | Sweet Home Central School District
(Ms.) Marvin L. Henchbarger, MAT, MSED
Executive Director | Gay and Lesbian Youth Services (GLYS) of WNY, Inc.

The Intersection of Social Media and Student Bullying
Michael Pregot, Ph.D.
Coordinator of Educational Leadership Programs | Long Island University

Understanding Online Disinhibition: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly
Kathryn Levy
Doctoral Student | School of Social Work | University at Buffalo

Bullying and Individuals with Disabilities: Needs Assessment Findings
Amanda Nickerson, Ph.D.
Associate Professor and Director | Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention | University at Buffalo
Jilynn Werth
Doctoral Student | Combined Counseling and School Psychology Program | University at Buffalo

The Dignity for All Students Act Roundtable Discussion
Nanci Monaco, Ph.D.
Licensed Psychologist and Associate Professor | Child and Adolescent Psychology in the EER Department | Buffalo State College
Mark Schachter, Ph.D. | Licensed Psychologist
Poster Sessions

*Humane Education and Animal Cruelty: How Do These Relate To Empowering Kindness and Decreasing Violence?*
Pamela Hylinger, Director of Humane Education & Mary Jo Sicurella, Humane Educator | SPCA Serving Erie County

*Perspective of Victims of Severe Bullying*
Dr. Muhammad Waseem, Attending Physician | Lincoln Hospital

*Relational Bullying and Deception in Early Childhood*
Kimberly Kamper, Graduate Student | University at Buffalo

*Understanding the Role of Social Support and Gender on the Association Between Relational Victimization and Self-concept*
Sarah Blakely-McClure, Doctoral Student & Dr. Jamie Ostrov, Associate Professor of Psychology | University at Buffalo

Alberti Center Annual Conference - Sponsors

**Platinum Sponsor**
embraceWNY

**Gold Sponsors**

Buffalo Teachers Federation
Hodgson Russ
New York Association of School Psychologists
UB Graduate School of Education
UB Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

**Silver Sponsors**
Pearson
Co-Sponsored Events

A variety of schools participate by hosting auditions and/or competitions that incorporate the arts within their own school, related to the theme of Dignity. The acts are encouraged to combine multiple forms of art to create the most dynamic illustration of dignity awareness. Each final act performs at the University at Buffalo Center for the Arts. It is an eventful evening, including valuable information on bullying awareness, exceptional talent and collaboration among students, and an opportunity to raise money for the prevention of bullying in schools. Proceeds benefit each participating school, and the continued development of the BAND Against Bullying Program.

BAND Against Bullying III (April 2015) Sponsored by Hodgson Russ

“Spread the Word to End the Word” Event (March 2015)

Safe Schools Initiative Seminar (March 2015)

2015 SRCD Peer Relations Conference (March 2015)

Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day (May 2015)

Alberti Center Presence at Other Events/Venues

“Bullying Stops Here” event at Downtown Buffalo Library (October 2014)

Disability History Week Celebration (October 2014)

Champions for Change Youth Leadership Conference (October 2014)

Safe and Seen Halloween Event Sponsored by Make-a-Wish Foundation (October 2014)

NFJC Conference (November 2014)

Educator’s Seminar Sponsored by Character Council of WNY (November 2014)

“Adopt a Family” Sponsored by UB (December 2014)

Starpoint Health and Wellness Fair (February 2015)

“Spread the Word to End the R Word” event at Buffalo Downtown Library (March 2015)

Wellness Fair at Williamsville North High School (March 2015)

Embrace the Brunch Sponsored by embraceWNY (April 2015)

Embrace the Difference “Giveback Day” (April 2015)
Media Coverage & Press Releases

Erie County Office for the Disabled helps 'Spread the Word to End the Word' – Niagara Frontier Publications, 3/6/15

Anti-bullying activist calls Richie Incognito signing 'slap in the face' – Sportal, 2/12/15

Incognito signing upsets Buffalo anti-bullying group – msn News, 2/12/15

Local anti-bullying activists wary of Bills adding Incognito – NBC Sports, 2/12/15

Richie Incognito insists he's not a racist – Huffington Post Sports, 2/12/15

Richie Incognito signing rankles Buffalo anti-bullying organization – Fox Sports, 2/11/15

N.Y. anti-bullying advocates aren't fans of Bills adding Richie Incognito – Palm Beach Post, 2/11/15

'Football bully' coming to the Bills, expert weighs in – WBFO 88.7, 2/11/15

Player's past called 'hard to ignore' – The Buffalo News, 2/11/15

109 Schools in WNY Reported Zero Bullying Incidents – WGRZ Channel 2 News, 2/1/15

Talk of Building a Bully Sends the Wrong Message – The Buffalo News, 1/21/15

Was Ryan's 'Build a Bully' the Right Message? – WBEN Radio 930, 1/20/15

Children Exposure to Violence in the Media – CW Channel 23 “Winging It” Program, 10/15/14

Cyberbullying: Is there an answer? – SUNY, Big Ideas, 8/15/14

Indiana State Police Active Shooter Training Videos Anger Parents – Fox News, Indiana, 7/24/14
Social Media Efforts/Center Reach

- 345 Followers
- 81 Members
- 411 Followers
- 1106 Contacts

Pedagogy of Inquiry, Engagement, and Impact

Center for Continuing and Professional Education (CCPE) Courses

- **CEP 752** - Bullying Prevention and Intervention (online)
  - PREPared Workshop 1: *Crisis Prevention and Preparedness: Comprehensive School Safety Planning*

- **CEP 754** - School Crisis Prevention and Preparedness
  - PREPared Workshop 1: *Crisis Prevention and Preparedness: Comprehensive School Safety Planning*

- **CEP 756** - School Crisis Intervention and Recovery
  - PREPared Workshop 2: *Crisis Intervention and Recovery: The Roles of School-Based Mental Health Professionals*

**Total participants in Fall semester CCPE courses:** 20 students

NYSED Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) Training for Certification

**DASA Workshop participants from August 2014 – June 2015:** 397 students
Financial Report

REVENUES

Balance of IFR $7,852.37
Balance of UBF $68,800.06
Annual Operating Budget: $12,000.00
Gifts and Donations: $26,844.96
Event Sponsorships: $4,275.00
Annual Conference: $9,758.10
GSE Sponsored Table: $900.00
Presentation Fees: $350.50
Teaching (Course Materials) $2,680.00
DASA Training $29,625.00
NASP (GA Sponsorship) $12,672.00
Grants $12,663.14
Total: $188,421.13

OPERATING EXPENSES

PROGRAM SERVICES $44,891.97
Annual Conference $9,718.57
Early Career Award $1,500.00
Hospitality (Airlines/Hotels) $1,016.81
DASA Training $17,946.40
Resource/Teaching Materials $2,047.05
Grant Research $12,663.14

FACILITIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE $33,351.68
GUSF & Epay Fees $5,271.30
Personnel $27,325.00
Staff Travel & Registrations $755.38

OTHER EXPENSES $8,972.35
Office Supplies $2,993.85
Equipment/Software $1,645.67
Sponsorships $1,425.00
Marketing/Printing $2,907.83
Total: $87,216.00

YEAR END BALANCES

State Start-Up Funds (Dean’s Office) - $25.84
UBF account – $67,104.18
IFR (SIRI) - $45,797.59